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Docket No. CDS-221

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Thomas J. Mercolino et al.

Serial No.: 09/585,820

Art Unit: 1641

Filed : June 1, 2000

Examiner: Grun, J.

For : **SIMULTANEOUS DETERMINATION OF FORWARD AND REVERSE  
ABO BLOOD GROUP**

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(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

*C. K. Gowen*

(Signature)

April 22, 2002

(Date of Signature)

Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This paper is being filed together with a Request for Continuing Application under 37 CFR 1.53(d), in response to the Office Action mailed October 23, 2001 in connection with parent application Serial No, 09/585,820 filed June 1, 2000. The three-month date for responding to the Office Action was January 23, 2001. This Preliminary Amendment is filed with a Petition and Fee for an Extension of Time for a period of three months. With this Extension of Time, the response will be due on April 23, 2002, which is within the six-month statutory period.